

Senator Carney, Representative Mooney and Honorable members of the Judiciary committee.

My name is Daniel Scott, and I am a resident of Eddington. I am here to speak in opposition to LD 1619.

In the past Governor Mills has stated that she didn't feel that Maine's current abortion law needed to change. So what's different now? Currently abortion in Maine is available on demand, anytime, without medical reason until a baby reaches viability (approximately 24 weeks). With the new law, Maine would have one of the most extreme abortion laws in the entire country. We don't need Maine abortion tourism.

According to Pew Research, less than 20% of voters support the right to an abortion in all cases, leaving 80% who support abortion with limitations.

Dr. Jerome LeJeune, the father of modern genetics, has said, "biologically, human development begins at fertilization".

On a more personal note, my son Daniel was born with Down Syndrome. That diagnosis, in and of itself, would have been justification for having an abortion. Instead my son lived a very successful, rewarding, and abundant life. He became an Eagle Scout, served on the State of Maine Disability Committee, and learned sign language by attending an adult education class. He did this so he could communicate with a friend at his day program who was hearing impaired.

There is no such thing as a "humane" abortion. "In the Womb", an article in a 2005 National Geographic states, "To deny when life begins, should not be made a basis for legalizing abortions".

Thank you for your time and careful attention to this very significant issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel N. Scott